Closure of unmanned railway crossing

†2893. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unmanned railway crossings are the main hurdle in the movement of special trains carrying military personnel, equipments and armaments; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to issues instructions for closure of these unmanned railway crossing in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cross subsidy in the railways

†2894. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways are considering to abolish the cross-subsidy;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to take any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Rationalisation of fare and freight structure has been proposed in the Railway Budget 2002-03 which will reduce the level of cross-subsidy between the Passenger and Freight Services.

(c) No time frame can be fixed as Railways do not receive any subsidy and adjustment of fares and freight rates is a continuous process.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.